COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY

NSTAR GAS COMPANY))	D.T.E. 02-59
)	

PETITION FOR LIMITED PARTICIPANT STATUS OF BOSTON GAS COMPANY, COLONIAL GAS COMPANY AND ESSEX GAS COMPANY EACH D/B/A KEYSPAN ENERGY DELIVERY NEW ENGLAND

Pursuant to 220 C.M.R. 1.03, Boston Gas Company, Colonial Gas Company and Essex Gas Company each d/b/a KeySpan Energy Delivery New England ("KeySpan") hereby petition the Department of Telecommunications and Energy ("Department") for leave to participate as limited participants in the above-captioned proceeding. In support of this request, KeySpan states the following:

- The KeySpan companies are Massachusetts corporations located at One Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02108.
- 2. The KeySpan companies are gas companies, as defined in G.L. c. 164, § 1, and are regulated by the Department, pursuant to G.L. c. 164.
- 3. On December 20, 2002, the Department opened an investigation into the petition of NStar Gas Company ("NStar") for approval to renew several gas transportation contracts with Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company and Dominion Transmission, Inc. and to terminate a gas transportation agreement with National Fuel Gas Supply Corporation.
- 4. The Department's investigation in this proceeding is likely to raise issues dealing with gas transportation contracts and gas supply portfolios that are common to other gas companies in Massachusetts, including KeySpan.

5. KeySpan's limited participant status will not jeopardize the Department's

investigation in any way.

6. Counsel for NStar has been contacted and has indicated that NStar does not object

to KeySpan being granted limited participant status.

7. KeySpan's interests are unique and cannot be adequately represented by any other

party.

8. Accordingly, KeySpan seeks to take part as a limited participant in this case, and

where appropriate, to file comments, attend and participate in technical conferences, submit

briefs, and to participate in this proceeding in any other manner deemed appropriate for limited

participants by the Hearing Officer.

Wherefore, KeySpan respectfully requests that the Department grant this Petition for

Limited Participant Status.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Crowe, Counsel

Boston Gas Company, Colonial Gas Company

and Essex Gas Company each d/b/a

KeySpan Energy Delivery New England

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Dated: January 8, 2003

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